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The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

Listing of claims:

1   1. (canceled)

1   2. (currently amended) A program processing system for performing a
2   program process using an electronic program guide, comprising:
3   a communication network;
4   a program processing apparatus for executing a program process, said
5   apparatus having
6   a database for storing program reservation data identifying a
7   reservation of particular externally broadcast programs for recording,
8   means for preparing a program condition data based, at least in
9   part, on said reservation data,
10   means for receiving and storing a privacy level data having at
11   least a first value and a second value,
12   means transmitting the stored privacy level data through said
13   communication network, and
14   means for transmitting, based at least in part on said privacy
15   level data, said program condition data through said network, wherein
16   said transmitting selectively transmits said condition data when said
17   privacy level data has said first value and is inhibited from
18   transmitting said condition data when said privacy level data has said
19   second value;
20   an electronic program guide preparation server, connected to said
21   communication network, for preparing an electronic program guide,

22   wherein said electronic program guide preparation server includes

23   reception means for receiving said privacy level data and said condition data

24   through said communication network, means for preparing an electronic

25   program guide including a display form showing a reservation status of the

26   externally broadcast programs based on said received condition data, and

27   transmission means for transmitting the prepared electronic program guide to

28   said program processing apparatus,

29   wherein said program processing apparatus further includes

30   means for displaying the electronic program guide received through

31   said communication network,

32   means for recording said externally broadcast programs,

33   a recorded program database for storing information identifying

34   externally broadcast programs that have been recorded by said means for

35   recording said externally broadcast programs,

36   a program playback section for retrieving and playing externally

37   broadcast programs stored in said recorded program database;

38   inputting means for receiving user commands relating to the electronic

39   program guide displayed by said means for displaying the electronic program

40   guide received from said electronic program guide preparation server, wherein

41   said receiving includes receiving user commands identifying an acquisition

42   period associated with said electronic program guide, said acquisition period

43   being a period within which a plurality of programs within said program guide

44   may be broadcast; and

45   an operating instruction section for controlling said program playback

46   section based on said electronic program guide displayed by said means for

47   displaying and on said user commands,

48   wherein said preparing performed by said means for preparing a

49   program condition data includes preparing the program condition data further

50   based on said information stored in said recorded program database

51   identifying externally broadcast programs that have been recorded, and

52   wherein said preparing performed by said means for preparing an

53   electronic program guide further includes;

54   identifying a present date and time from an external clock;

55   determining, based on the identified present date and time and the

56   user-input acquisition period received at said inputting means, a time relation

57   of the identified present time and the user-input acquisition period as being

58   one of the identified present date and time being within the user-input

59   acquisition period, the user-input acquisition period being earlier than the

60   identified present date and time, and the identified user-input acquisition

61   period being later than the identified present date and time,

62   determining, in response to determining the identified present date and

63   time being within the user-input acquisition period, whether or not a program

64   within the user-input acquisition period is being currently recorded,

65   confirming, in response to determining the user-input acquisition

66   period as earlier than the identified present time, stored information in the

67   recorded program database relating to recorded programs within the user-

68   input acquisition period, and

69   confirming, in response to determining the user-input acquisition

70   period as later than the identified present time, stored information in the

71   database for storing program reservation data relating to programs within the

72   user-input acquisition period.

1   3-15. (canceled)

1   16. (previously presented) The program processing system of claim 2,

2   wherein a monetary consideration which, differs depending upon said a

3   privacy level data sent from said program processing apparatus, is imposed

4   for said electronic program guide preparation server sending said electronic

5   guide to said program processing apparatus.

1   17-24. (as previously presented)